

Committee for Medicaid Reform

Briefing on SeniorCare and the Impact of Medicare Part D

March 9, 2005

Division of Health Care Financing
SeniorCare and Medicare Part D - March 9, 2005



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The SeniorCare Waiver

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The SeniorCare Waiver

- SeniorCare was implemented on September 1, 2002, under a CMS Medicaid Pharmacy Plus demonstration waiver (Section 1115).
- The SeniorCare waiver runs for 5 years, through June 30, 2007.
- In September 2004, Governor Doyle sought CMS confirmation of continued federal funding to support SeniorCare after January 1, 2006.
 - No response has been received from CMS to date.
- The Governor's budget fully funds SeniorCare through June 2007.



SeniorCare Budget Neutrality

- SeniorCare meets budget neutrality requirements of the Pharmacy Plus waiver.
 - By receiving drug coverage through SeniorCare, participants maintain a level of health that keeps them from spending down to Medicaid eligibility levels.
- Federal regulations require all Pharmacy Plus waiver programs to submit a revised budget neutrality agreement in order to continue the waiver after the January 1, 2006, start of Medicare Part D.
 - DHFS is confident that SeniorCare will remain budget neutral under the guidance issued by CMS.

